

PATENT
P-5093**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial No. 09/732,838 Confirmation No.: 3010
Applicant(s) Robert C. Fletcher et al.
Filed: December 8, 2000
Group Art Unit: 1641
Examiner: Christopher L. Chin
Docket: P-5093
Customer No.: 26253

RECEIVED
CENTRAL CENTER
JAN 12 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
FAXED (703) 872-9306 TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX
1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

BY: URSULA M. POLIGNONE
(NAME)
Ursula M. Polignone 1/12/05
(SIGNATURE) (DATE)

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 10, 2004, the period for response having been extended three months by the filing of an extension of time herewith, and in connection with a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") being submitted concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application as set forth herein.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.